



July 25, 2017  
Via Overnight Delivery & E-Mail

Ms. Sara J. Clark, Secretary, Commission Secretary  
MA Department of Telecommunications & Cable  
1000 Washington Street  
Suite 820  
Boston, MA 02118

**RE: Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc.  
Revision for M.D.T.C. Tariff No. 2 (Access)**

Dear Ms. Clark:

Enclosed for filing please find the original and one (1) copy of the above referenced tariff filing submitted on behalf of Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc. ("Company"). This filing revises terminating switched access rates to implement the sixth phase of intercarrier compensation transition in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission Report and Order in WC Docket No. 10-90, *et. al.*, FCC No. 11-161. Terminating switched access rates are set at parity with the Company's interstate terminating switched access rates. The Company respectfully requests an effective date for this filing of July 29, 2017.

The following tariff pages are included:

3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Page 1	Updates Check Sheet
1 <sup>st</sup> Revised Page 43	Adds Text Regarding 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party and End Office Rates
3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised Page 57	Revises Terminating Switched Access Rates

*Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$100.00 to cover the filing fee. This filing has been submitted via email to [dtc.efiling@state.ma.us](mailto:dtc.efiling@state.ma.us).*

Please acknowledge receipt of this filing by date-stamping the extra copy of this cover letter and returning it to me in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided for that purpose.

Any questions you may have regarding this filing should be directed to my attention at 407-740-3006 or via email to [croesel@tminc.com](mailto:croesel@tminc.com). Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Carey Roesel

Carey Roesel  
Consultant to Birch Communications of the Northeast, Inc.

cc: S. Hayes - Birch  
tms: MAa1702

Enclosures  
CR/sp

## CHECK SHEET

Pages of this tariff, as indicated below, are effective as of the date shown at the bottom of the respective pages. Original and revised pages, as named below, comprise all changes from the original tariff and are currently in effect as of the date on the bottom of this page.

PAGE	REVISION		PAGE	REVISION		PAGE	REVISION
Title	Original		26	Original		51	Original
1	3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised	*	27	Original		52	Original
2	Original		28	Original		53	Original
3	Original		29	Original		54	Original
4	Original		30	Original		55	Original
5	Original		31	Original		56	Original
6	Original		32	Original		57	3 <sup>rd</sup> Revised *
7	Original		33	Original		58	Original
8	Original		34	Original		59	Original
9	Original		35	Original		60	Original
10	Original		36	Original		61	Original
11	Original		37	Original		62	Original
12	Original		38	Original		63	Original
13	Original		39	Original		64	Original
14	Original		40	Original		65	Original
15	Original		41	Original		66	Original
16	Original		42	Original		67	Original
17	Original		43	1 <sup>st</sup> Revised	*	68	Original
18	Original		44	Original		69	Original
19	Original		45	Original		70	Original
20	Original		46	Original		71	Original
21	Original		47	Original			
22	Original		48	Original			
23	Original		49	Original			
24	Original		50	Original			
25	Original						

ISSUED: July 26, 2017

EFFECTIVE: July 29, 2017

Issued by: Gordon P. Williams, Jr. – Senior Vice President & General Counsel  
2323 Grand Blvd., Suite 925  
Kansas City, MO 64108

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### SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (CONT'D)

#### 3.3 Rate Categories

There are three rate categories which apply to Switched Access Service:

- End Office Switching (includes Common Line and Switched Transport)
- Toll-Free 8XX Data Base Access Service
- Optional Features

##### 3.3.1 End Office Switching

The Company combines traditional per minute switched access rate elements into a single composite per minute rate element. This element includes the following rate categories:

###### A. Common Line

The Common Line rate category establishes the charges related to the use of Company-provided end user common lines by customers and end users for intrastate access.

###### B. Switched Transport

The Switched Transport rate category establishes the charges related to the transmission and tandem switching facilities between the customer designated premises and the end office switch(es) where the customer's traffic is switched to originate or terminate the customer's communications. The Switched Transport rate category also includes transport between an end office which serves as host for a remote switching system or module (RSS or RSM) and the RSS or RSM.

The terminating switched transport rate schedules are bifurcated into "3<sup>rd</sup> Party" (N) and "End Office" rates. The Company bills the End Office terminating switched transport rates, in accordance with Federal Communications Commission Rules 51.907(g)(2) and 51.907(g), for "terminating traffic traversing a tandem switch that the terminating carrier or its affiliates owns." All other terminating switched transport traffic is billed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party terminating switched transport rates. (N)

###### C. End Office Switching

The End Office Switching rate category establishes the charges related to the use of end office switching equipment, the terminations in the end office of end user lines, the terminations of calls at Company Intercept Operators or recordings, the Signaling Transfer Point (STP) costs, and the SS7 signaling function between the end office and the STP.

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## SECTION 3 - SWITCHED ACCESS SERVICE, (CONT'D)

## 3.9 Rates and Charges (Continued)

## 3.9.3 End Office Switching

## A. Local Switching, per Minute

**Originating**

Service Provided via UNE-P/Commercial Agreement:

- Direct-Connect Access (w/o Host-Remote Transport)	\$0.002124	- Tandem
- Tandem Connect Access (w/Host Remote Transport)	\$0.007401	
- Direct Connect Access (w/Host Remote Transport)	\$0.004375	

Service Provided via Company Facilities: \$0.00408200

**Terminating**

Service Provided via UNE-P/Commercial Agreement:

	<u>Tandem Connect</u>		<u>Direct Connect</u>		(C)
	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Party</u>	<u>End Office</u>	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Party</u>	<u>End Office</u>	
Per minute	\$0.00159800 R	\$0.00070000 R	\$0.00000000 R	\$0.00000000 R	

Service Provided via Company Facilities:

	<u>Tandem Connect</u>		(C)
	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Party</u>	<u>End Office</u>	
Per minute	\$0.0000240 R	\$0.0000000 R	

## B. Transport Interconnection Charge

- Per Minute Note 1

## C. Information Surcharge

- Per Minute Note 1

Note 1: All access minutes are billed at a single per minute access rate found in Section 3.9.3A, Local Switching. This composite rate includes the elements traditionally billed as Transport Interconnection Charge and Information Surcharge.

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